

4/1/15 Update on Sirenusa Condo Methyl Bromide Release, Cruz Bay, St. John

Today ventilation of Units J upper and lower continued. Air monitoring readings taken prior to ventilation indicated background in J upper and 200 ppb in J lower. Both units were ventilated for the entire day. Levels of total VOCs directly outside openings to the units were all at background levels. The units have been closed and air monitoring for total VOC will be taken in the morning. Crews will determine tomorrow's ventilation schedule based on those readings

Preliminary results from Summa air samples taken on 3/27 should be received on 4/3. Results for the wipe samples taken last week will be available early next week. A flyer for residents and guests of the condominium was prepared and distributed 3/31. The flyer provides information about the building ventilation activities.

ATSDR is moving forward with plans to deploy the Epi-Aid team. The formal request package was submitted to OMB today with a request for 24hr turnaround on review. It is anticipated that OMB will approve the request. In addition, ATSDR is coordinating with the USVI DOH to determine clearance values for re-occupancy of the effected condominiums.

OSC's on St. John continue to work with the condominium management companies to obtain client and employee lists. EPA OSC's are also in the process of obtaining a list of first responders who took part in the March 2015 incident. These lists will be provided to ATSDR as a starting point for their investigation. EPA is assisting ATSDR with logistical support and will be providing the ATSDR team with office space on St. Thomas. This space is located in the Tunick Building where on-island EPA personnel will share office space with ATSDR.

The REOC continued working with EPA Pesticides and Toxic Substances Branch to evaluate options for management of existing stocks of the fumigant. Stocks of Methyl Bromide have been identified at facilities on St. Thomas and St. Croix, consisting of one cylinder at each of two facilities. In coordination with DPNR and EPA CID, a secure location has been identified where the St. Thomas cylinder will be transported and staged until the container is sampled. It is expected that the container will be moved on 4/7. A plan is also in place to transport the cylinder St. Croix the same secure location.

R2 REOC remains the point of contact for all EPA's activities related to this incident.

Personnel on-site today included 3 OSCs and 1 RST contractor.

EPA is still working cooperatively with DPNR, the St. John Fire Department, the St. John Police Department, Terminix, ATSDR, the USVI DOH and the condo complex management company.